

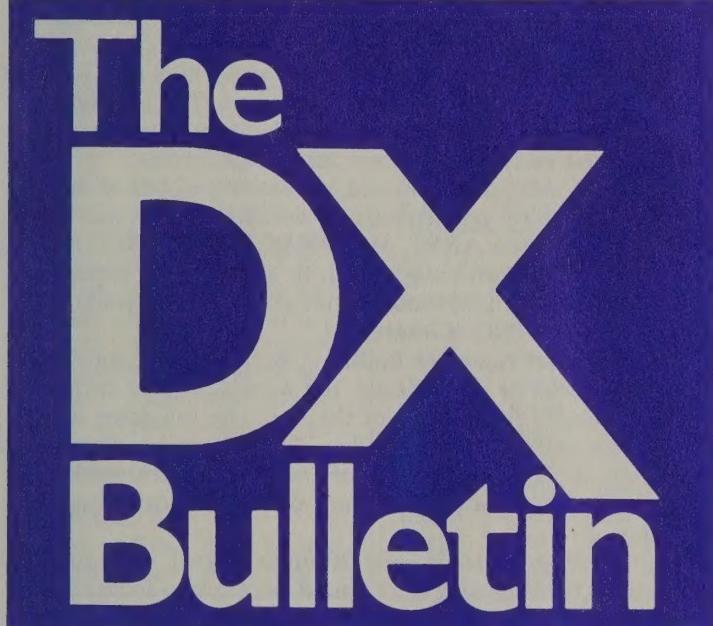
DXpedition News

Issue 736

Tonga - A3 Paul Kidd KK6H will operate from Tonga May 5-June 4, concentrating on CW, RTTY, the new bands, and the low bands. He'll use the shack of A35CT, with the addition of R7, HF2V, and G5RV antennas. He has requested a special callsign such as **A36H**, but this has not been confirmed. He'll enter the WPX CW contest. QSL home call.

St. Paul Island - CY9 A group of five amateurs will operate from St. Paul (NA-094) for 4-5 days in the June 10-19th range, depending on weather. Operators are Scott N9JCL, Tom K0SN, Bob AA9GZ, Paul WC9E, and Ken WB9OBX, all /CY9. Watch 25 kHz up on CW, and 1855, 3795, 7155, 14195, 18130, 21295, and 28350 kHz on SSB. Try 85 kHz up for RTTY. Full calls, please. QSL to Tom Hellem K0SN, W6321 Two Mile Rd., Porterfield WI 54143 with SASE and US\$1.

Edited by Chod Harris VP2ML



America's Premier Weekly Amateur Radio Publication

Islands On The Air

- **JI6KVR** will be on Uji Island (AS-067) around May 6.
- **S79CK/C** is I4LCK from Astove Island (AF-026) May 3-6. Try 4 or 40 kHz up on CW, and the IOTA frequencies. He'll be active as **S79CK/D** from Desroches Island (AF-033) May 7-14. QSL home call. ([DXNS](#).)
- **K5MK** and **G0KJW** will operate /G and /GM from the Farne Islands (EU-109) on May 7, and from Lindisfarne (EU-120) and Great Cumbrae Island, Scotland (EU-123) the week of May 9, on 40-10 meters, including the new bands. Try the IOTA frequencies on SSB and 30 kHz up on CW. QSL to individual home calls.
- **WW1V** and **KA1GJ** will operate from Monhegan Island (NA-137) May 7-8, on CW and SSB. This is a warm-up for the IOTA contest on July 30-31. QSL home calls.

April 29, 1994

Shorty Noted

- The **AH6IO/KH3** Johnston Island operation has been canceled, due to an indefinite postponement of the work contract. However, KH3AF has loan of the satellite gear that Pat NH6UY was going to take to the island, and will be active with it for the next month.
- **4S7/ON4IPA** is active from Sri Lanka until August. Try 14222 kHz at 1800Z. QSL home call. ([DXNS](#).)
- **VP2E/JA1CMD** will be active May 13-16, on 160-10 meters, CW and SSB. QSL via the JARL bureau to JA1CMD, or direct to Kazu Mayimore, c/o Furukawa, 200 Westpark Dr., Suite 190, Peachtree City GA 30269.
- **J7: IK2GNW** will operate from Dominica (NA-101) May 1-10, SSB only on 160-10 meters, with emphasis on 12 and 17 meters. QSL home call. ([DXNS](#).)
- **5N**: Patrick F6BLQ will be active from Lagos in May. Callsign not yet known, but QSL route is via F6EXQ. ([DXNS](#).)
- **T28RW** is Ron Wright ZL1AMO's Tuvalu callsign; QSL home call, direct only, please. Possible future stops are Nauru C21 and Western Kiribati T30. Try 7005± and 25 kHz up on the higher bands.
- **4U9ITU** will be operated by an Italian team May 20-22. 160-10 meters, CW, SSB, and RTTY. QSL this operation to I1YRL. ([OPDX](#).)
- **Malta 9H**: a group of Dutch amateurs will be active with various 9H3 callsigns June 24-July 4, on 80-10 meters, including the new bands, CW and SSB. ([OPDX](#).)
- **WB1BRE/VP9** will be active on 10, 15, and 20 meters and the amateur satellites May 13-26; QSL home call. ([OPDX](#).)
- **TI9JJP** has a new QSL address: Office Box Acct 321 CR, 3900 NW 79th Ave., Suite 564, Miami FL 33166. This should eliminate mail theft in Costa Rica. A return to Cocos in November for 10 days is under consideration.
- **8P9GQ**'s schedule has changed to May 14-June 4, including an entry in the WPX CW contest. See Issue 735.
- **Desecheo** will be difficult to work in the near future. The US Department of the Interior has refused permission to land on the island, due to the presence of unauthorized squatters. The Coast Guard has plenty of trouble with the regular inspections, much less baby-sitting DXers. All landing requests will be refused until further notice.
- **RTTY: 9K2ZZ** 14091 1615Z; **S92ZM** 21070 ARQ 1600Z; **UN7LFO** 14091 1720Z; **YO2KBB** 14089 1710Z.
- **SSB Net check-ins:** **14226.5 kHz (11,22Z): T5/EI5C V31ML R1FJL 9M6LS 9J2AD VR6DB KS6DV AH8A S92YL HI8LC VP5JM ZD7KT 6Y5NM 9G1RZ; 14247 (21Z): J55UAB CU3AV EL2PP JY9ZK D44AB 5N3TDR 5N8LRG CE0ZAM.**
- **Silent Key:** Harvey McCoy W2IYX, the inventor of FSK RTTY, and long-time editor of *The Long Island DX Bulletin*, on April 17, at age 83.

Propagation

Forecast and Historical Data

Day	Forecast	27 Days Before	55 Days Before		
		Date	Flux A K	Date	Flux A K
<u>April 1994</u>					
29 Disturbed		4/2	79 25/34 3	3/5	96 03/05 1
30 Disturbed		4/3	77 48/76 4	3/6	96 07/09 2
<u>May 1994</u>					
1 Disturbed	4/4	77 30/50 3	3/7	91 36/53 4	
2 Disturbed	4/5	77 25/31 3	3/8	91 38/57 4	
3 Disturbed	4/6	73 30/43 3	3/9	90 33/52 4	
4 Disturbed	4/7	73 27/36 3	3/10	88 25/35 4	
5 Disturbed	4/8	73 31/40 3	3/11	88 24/37 3	
6 Disturbed	4/9	73 34/45 4	3/12	93 33/36 3	
7 Disturbed	4/10	75 25/31 3	3/13	90 21/22 2	
8 Disturbed	4/11	74 32/39 3	3/14	87 25/30 4	
9 Below Normal	4/12	74 17/25 3	3/15	87 36/42 4	
10 Below Normal	4/13	74 23/25 4	3/16	86 16/18 2	
11 Below Normal	4/14	79 19/26 3	3/17	85 26/32 3	
12 Low Normal	4/15	80 15/16 2	3/18	87 18/18 1	
13 Below Normal	4/16	82 23/29 4	3/19	89 13/15 1	
14 Disturbed	4/17	82 63/130 2	3/20	89 08/11 2	
15 Low Normal	4/18	84 17/19 3	3/21	91 21/27 3	

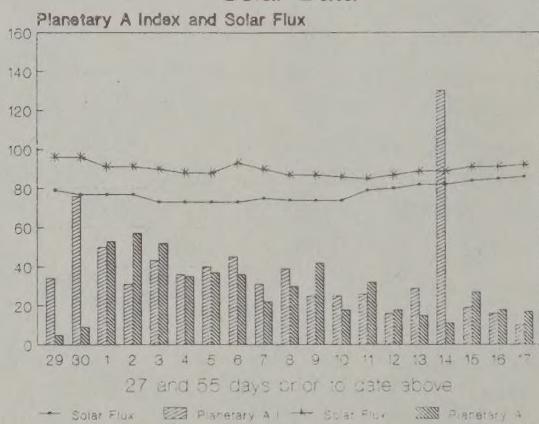
Propagation Watch

Did you enjoy the relatively good conditions this past week? As predicted, propagation improved dramatically from the highly disturbed conditions of early and mid-April. We even had some polar propagation, with some deep Asians coming through on the long path.

However, the Killer Koronal Hole is scheduled to return this weekend, with possible coronal mass ejections chewing up the bands. This mammoth coronal hole spreads across most of the southern pole of the sun, and has grown in size and intensity over the past several months. If it continues this trend, expect lousy conditions through the first week in May. Coronal holes tend to be long-lived during the declining phase of the sunspot cycle, as this one demonstrates.

The major solar storm that eliminated HF propagation on April 17 was due to a one-time event, and is not expected to repeat in May, despite the above prediction. At 0900Z on April 17, the K index reached 9, the highest possible level. This is equivalent to an A index of 400! The estimated Planetary A index for April 17 was 130. Small wonder that the bands were wiped out! Good hunting!

Solar Data



Scarborough Reef 15.07°N 117.51°E

by Martti Laine OH2BH/VR2BH

Background: This reef is claimed by China (PRC) and a DXCC application has been filed on the basis that the reef lies more than 225 statute miles from the coast of mainland China. At the same time, it is located only 120 miles west of the coast of the Philippines—and according to the application, the reef is not claimed by the Philippines even though it is located within the 200-mile economic zone of the Philippines.

According to the latest volume of the Sea Pilot, the reef is nearly awash while several rocks of 3 to 10 feet height lie on the reef. The wreck of a fishing vessel, stranded in 1971, is reported along with several pieces of other shipwrecks.

Survey flight: Today, April 24, 1994, OH2BH and DL5VJ chartered a twin-engine Britten-Norman airplane out of Manila and flew to Scarborough Reef, a two-hour flight, and surveyed the reef in great detail for 45 minutes. Some 100 pictures were taken as well as 30 minutes of video. Included in the video is an interview with the pilot before and after the survey flight.

Survey conditions: For today, the high tide was calculated for 9:05am. The party arrived at Scarborough Reef at 9:55am. The difference between high and low tides for this date is 55cm, less than two feet. The weather was clear and the sea was calm. Part of the survey was conducted as low as 100 feet above sea level.

All measurements and statements will be shared between several participants. A detailed report will be provided for the ARRL, the DXAC, and the NCDXF, and possibly others who might wish to share in the expenses involved—some US\$1900 charter cost. (Please contact W6OSP or N7NG if interested.)

A brief report of findings: With the exception of several rocks or coral heads, the narrow belt of coral reef is totally under the surface of the sea. The diameter of the reef was estimated at 10 miles. There is an opening into the lagoon at the southern end of the reef. Several rocks are found in the lagoon, but all are under the surface of the water.

Along approximately 30 miles of reef, only some 30 "rocks" (coral heads) were found protruding from the water. Only two of them were of significant size, and they were carefully observed. These rocks are estimated to be 5 by 6 feet with a height of approximately 6 feet above sea level. About half of the rocks were with "dry nose" at the time of the survey.

Landing and operating from Scarborough: With calm conditions, anchorage is possible within the lagoon. Staying and operating from the solid soil of the reef is impossible at high tide. The only possible operating site would be one of the ship wrecks which were well above sea level at the time of the survey.

Conclusion: It is now up to adventurous expeditioners to get to the vicinity of the reef and find a dry piece of land at low tide on which to operate or operate from one of the wrecks. It is up to the DXAC to decide whether those thirty coral heads are enough to make this another DXCC counter.

Many of the pictures of this survey will be sent via courier to the USA, and N7NG will present then at Dayton (look for the NCDXF booth).

B • A • N • D • P • A • S • S

Key to Bandpass: Callsign, frequency, UTC, day of the month, state. * = long path. P = packet.
All "portable" calls listed with country of operation first, regardless of format used on the air.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
10	11	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14

RTTY

5V7BB	14087	2319	21	FL
9H1ET	21088	1951	23	FL
9Y4VU	14084	2105	15	CA
C91AI	14082	1749	18	MN
FM5BN	7080	0215	12	CA
HK0DPA	14089	2310	19	CA
OH2GI	14086	1920	21	CA
S53CAB	14086	1202	23	FL
SP4CHY	14089	1807	18	MN
UR3UW	14081	2130	21	CA

80 Meters

5NØ/	3512	2355	13	IA
DL9GMM				
7L1WII	3511	1142	14	AL
CM6RQ	3503	1000	20	NH
CO6CG	3514	1010	17	NH
G4BUE	3506	0447	22	MI
HR1LW	3512	1056	12	AL
JA5CZE	3501	1005	16	NH
LU8HF	3505	0945	16	NH
S58FA	3509	0031	17	VA
T30RT	3505	1106	14	MI
T91EVC	3506	0219	17	FL
VP8GAV	3505	0154	18	VA
VP8GAV	3501	1030	18	IA
ZL2ASQ	3517	0900	19	NH
ZL2BGW	3503	0950	16	NH
ZL2DA	3505	0947	20	NH
ZL4IE	3505	0920	20	NH
ZS6BOF	3508	0212	18	VA

75 Meters

C31OF	3794	0045	17	MN
HK4DHR	3795	0314	18	IL

40 Meters

3B8CF	7005	0232	23	FL
4Z5BZ	7003	0004	14	VA
5R8DS	7005	0236	16	VA
5W1GC	7005	1042	14	MI
5Z4JD	7013	2153	11	VA

Annular Solar Eclipse May 10

On May 10, the moon will pass between the earth and sun, creating an eclipse. Because the moon is relatively close to the earth that day, it will not be a total eclipse, but an annular one. The moon's shadow will sweep across the US beginning at about 1610Z over El Paso, TX, reaching St. Louis MO at 1650Z, and passing over the Maine coast at 1750Z. DXers can observe the changes in low-band propagation as the temporary loss of solar energy reduces the ionization in the D layer of the ionosphere. Trying setting up skeds with stations on the opposite side of the shadow's path, observing propagation a few days before the eclipse, and then noting the enhanced signal strength as the shadow passes. At least it's something to do while waiting for the high bands to recover...

7X2AB	7001	0010	12	VA
BV2OL	7005	1406	10	ID
BV2TA	7010	1417	10	ID
BV7RC	7004	1054	15	AL
CL6SQ	7009	2354	17	FL
CO2JD	7002	0347	19	AZ
CO8OH	7006	0336	15	AZ
J37ZY	7228	0209	12	VA
JWØH	7004	0248	22	MI
OH8SR	7009	0110	18	IA
P29DK	7007	1154	14	AL
PY1VW	7011	0306	18	IL
T28RW	7004	0934	21	MI
V31HN	7200	0010	18	IA
V31ML	7013	0101	15	CO
V73C	7012	1137	23	FL
VK3SX	7223	1111	15	VA
VP8GAV	7015	0055	14	VA
VR6DB	7205	0550	17	IA
VU2XTO *	7003	1250	18	IA
YL1SK	7015	0325	14	IA
YS1XS	7007	0226	17	FL
YS1XS	7003	1202	12	MA
Z21HS	7007	0439	16	VA
ZK2DX	7001	1125	23	FL
ZS4XJ	7003	0105	18	IA
ZS6MG	7004	0007	17	VA

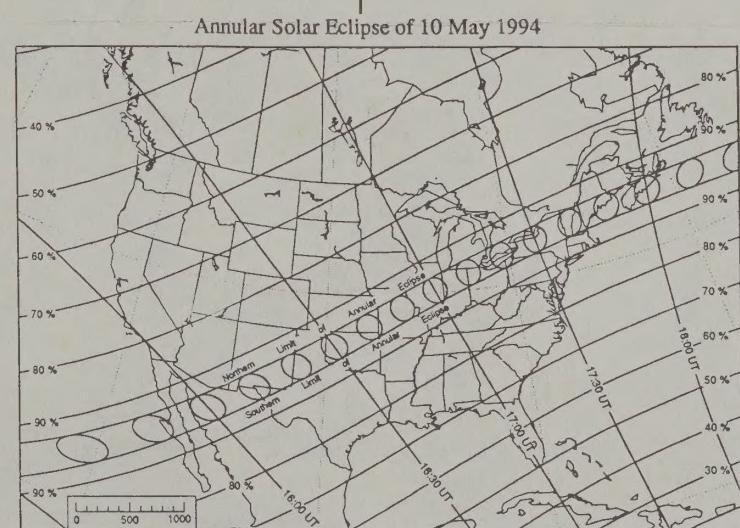
30 Meters

3D2RW	10104	1228	16	AL
4Z4DX	10101	0319	22	MI
C53HG	10104	0008	16	SC
CO2HA	10105	0223	17	FL
ET3VZ	10106	0203	20	MI
HKØER	10104	0100	8	ID
OA4FW	10101	1138	23	FL
PZ1DV	10107	1053	22	FL
S59AR	10102	2139	15	SC
S92SS	10109	2255	9	IL
ST2/	10104	0352	22	MI
DL8YR				
TL8NG	10105	2130	15	SC
UXØUN	10101	2346	21	FL
ZK1TB	10104	0318	14	SC

20 Meter CW

4S7WN 14007 1705 13 IA

5NØ/	14021	1956	11	CO
DL9GMM				
5X1B	14028	2026	14	WI
5Z4/	14040	1931	16	MA
F5IBZ				
7Z1AB	14013	2147	23	FL
8R1J	14016	2230	16	IA
9H1AZ	14011	2020	13	MI
9K2ZZ	14008	1807	18	MI
BV7FC	14009	1445	16	IA
ES1WN	14019	1345	13	MI
EY8JA	14005	0157	20	FL
HC2IK	14014	2310	21	FL
HSØZAA	14011	1439	13	VA
HT1T	14008	2341	20	FL
JWØE	14025	1350	16	IA
OA4CWR	14009	0129	20	FL
OX3XR	14024	1238	23	FL
PJ2AM	14024	1855	13	MI
PJ2LC	14020	2242	20	FL
PZ1DY	14027	1130	10	IL
R1FJC	14003	0127	20	FL
RX3RX	14030	1613	14	ID
T77C	14024	1520	16	VA
T93M	14020	1220	16	WI
T93M	14025	2144	20	FL
TF3IRA	14007	2205	14	IA
TG9AQ	14021	2321	20	FL
TG9YV	14022	1445	16	IL
TI8PRS	14030	1607	16	IL
TU2XP	14032	2139	10	CO
UAØYO	14028	0138	20	FL
UA8TAB	14026	0135	20	FL
UA9JH	14017	1317	16	MI
UK8AQ	14021	0244	20	TX
UNØPYL	14011	1340	16	IA
UN7CS	14008	0210	23	FL
VP5P	14014	1430	16	CA
VP5P	14005	2000	10	MI
YI9CW	14005	1805	10	SC
YS1DRF	14004	0044	22	FL
YS1XS	14032	2110	17	IA
ZK1TB	14011	0308	11	CO



Current and Future DXpeditions

(Changes and hot info in **boldface**.)

DXCC Country	Prefix Callsign	Dates	Issue
Anguilla	VP2E/JA1CMD	May 13-16	I736
Antarctica	VP8GAV	3503/0515Z+	I735
Aruba	P4 P40W	WPX CW	I735
Barbados	8P 8P9GQ	May 14-June 4	I735/6
Bermuda	VP9/ K1EFI	May 12-20	I732
	VP9/WB1BRE	May 13-26	I736
Cambodia	XU XU7UK	to Feb. '95	I724
	XU0HW/XU9HA	May 5-19	I726
Corsica	TK/ IK4s	May 19-23	I735
Dodecanese	SV5/ Fs	Apr. 23-29	I730
Dominica	J7 IK2GNW	MAY 1-10	I736
Eastern Kiribati	T32WP	May 4-8	I735
Fiji	3D 3D2QB	now active	I726
Iraq	YI9CW	18074 14-16Z	I732
ITU HQ	4U1ITU	Apr. 30-May 2	I732
	4U9ITU	May 24-28	I734
	4U1ITU	Apr. 30-May 1	I735
	4U9ITU	May 2022	I736
Jamaica	6Y5/ KF9PL	May 25-30	I734
Johnston Island	KH3 AH6IO+	Cancelled	I736
Kerguelen	FT FT5XJ	14288 0315Z	I733
Leichtenstein	HB0/DJ2XS	May 22-23	I734
Malta	9H PAs	June 24-July 4	I736
Marianas	KH0/ KH2GR+	May 26-30	I735
Market Reef	OJ0/ OHs+	May 15-19	I735
Micronesia	V6 V63s	June 8-17	I735
	V63NI/YH	May 5-8	I735
Nicaragua	YN YN1EUG	to April	I727
Niger	5U SU7Y	now active	I726
Nigeria	5N0/DL9GMM	to Dec.	I731
	5N/F6BLQ?	May	I736
North Cooks	ZK1AT	3784 07Z Sun.	I729
Pakistan	AP AP2MIZ	21270/11Z	I730
		21295/12Z	I730
Rodriguez Island	3B 3B9FR	new bands	I711
St. Eustatius	PJ5/K3UOC	May 24-31	I733
St. Paul Island	CY9/ Ws	June 10-19	I736
St. Maarten	PJ7/WB2CHO	May 24-29	I733
	PJ7/OH2LVG	May 26-30	I734
Saudi Arabia	HZ HZ1AB	1832± 02Z Fri.	I721
Sri Lanka	4S7/ON4IPA	to August	I736
Svalbard	JW JW5EBA	Jan.-June	I719
Tajikistan	EY EY8MM	3505/3795 02Z	I729
Tonga	A3 A36H?	May 5-June 4	I736
Trindade Island	PY0 PY0TUP	Apr.-Aug.	I731
Tuvalu	T28RW	now active	I736
Yemen	7O 7O1AA	now active	I733
Zambia	9J2BO	24900 1530Z	I720

Operating Events and DX Gatherings

Dates	Event	Reference:
April 29-May 1	Dayton Hamvention®	
May 7-8	ARI International DX Contest	<u>CQ</u>
May 28-29	CQWW WPX CW Contest	<u>CQ</u>

DX Advisory Committee Actions

Bob Beatty W4VQ, DXAC chairman, has announced that the question of new country status for **Pratas Island BV9P** is back on the DXAC agenda. Dr. Bolin Lin BV5AF, president of the Chinese Taipei Amateur Radio League, is now in contact with the DXAC. Dr. Lin is providing answers to committee questions. A vote on the question of DXCC country status for Pratas has not been scheduled at this time.

By unanimous vote, the DXAC passed a recommendation to delete **Walvis Bay ZS9** and **Penguin Islands ZS0.1**. The DXAC decided that these entities no longer meet the DXCC criteria following their turnover to Namibia by South Africa. This recommendation has been sent to the Awards Committee along with a suggested effective date of March 1, 1994.



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In another ballot, the DXAC voted down a proposal to add additional single-band awards to the DXCC program. The vote was 13-2 against the idea of adding 30, 20, 17, 15, and 12-meter single-band awards.

The DXAC also voted 15-1 against a proposal to add a 10-Meter DXCC Honor Roll to the existing program, citing DXCC desk work load.

The vote to reconsider the addition of **Mt. Athos SY** to the DXCC countries list (in essence to remove the country from the list), will be re-balloted. There were concerns over the wording of the question on the ballot.

The DXAC voted 15-1 to accept the QSLing guidelines as per subcommittee report. This report has not yet been made public.

Active agenda items now include **Pratas Island**, **Aldabra Island**, **Scarborough Reef**, minimum size for a DXCC country, working by call areas, and the **Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus**, and **Mt. Athos**.